

19 April 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Request for Information about Contacts with  
Academics and Other Professional Researchers

REFERENCE : [ ] Note to OER, OSR, OGCR, [ ] OPR;  
dated 13 April 1976

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1. The attachments to this memorandum are the responses of the DDI Coordinator for Academic Relations and the Office of Political Research to the referenced query. These lists are arranged as follows:

- I. DDI/CAR Contacts
- II. OPR Contacts
- III. OPR Consultants and Independent Contractors
- IV. OPR Research Institutes
- V. Firms or Individuals That Evaluate OPR Products
- VI. Recruitment Activity

2. You will recall that at the creation of OPR, the position of Coordinator for Academic Relations was merged with other work in the OPR hierarchy. This reflected the DDI view that OPR had a leading responsibility within the Directorate to maintain contact with the best non-governmental researchers and analysts. From the beginning, the Office has taken this charge seriously, and the effect upon the research product has been positive.

3. As a regular feature of OPR's program, selected specialists are invited to come to Headquarters to present a seminar that is relevant to some portion of our office work program. Analysts from other DDI offices attend these formal sessions. More informal and intensive afternoon meetings with OPR staff members review the "how" and the "why" of specific forthcoming projects, or of the thrust of the work program in general. Few scholars have refused to participate, and, of those, most have had schedule conflicts. The purpose of such contact--to broaden the perspective of the analysts in general, and to discuss specific projects--has been fulfilled.

4. In addition to such seminars, we have called together small groups (e.g., three outside Sov/EE specialists) to look carefully for two or three days at the work of a single staff. We have called together 15 multi-disciplinary and area specialists on the West Coast to advise about the substantive objectives of our International/Functional Staff. In each case, our ideas were refined and improved, and we expect to repeat the process for other staffs.

5. We never hesitate to ask our contacts for recruitment leads, nor they to offer them gratuitously. In one special effort to find multi-disciplinary analysts, 34 professors and other researchers were contacted. They suggested 30 first-class leads, of which one is now in process for employment and others are under consideration. The DDI/CAR sent recruitment letters to about 20 scholars on his mailing list on behalf of the CIA Spanish Surname Coordinator. Response was small, but at least one of the suggested prospects was hired by OPR.

6. As you are well aware, there are also informal contacts between our analysts and colleagues they have known for years. These are augmented further by attendance at meetings of professional associations and the informal consultations with new people that arise on such occasions. In addition, some OPR analysts write for outside publication and get substantive feedback. Some of our work and that of other DDI offices is sent to scholars by the DDI/CAR and receives substantive response. Finally, when our middle- and senior-level analysts appear at professional meetings, they are sought out by their professional colleagues. They are asked to participate on panels, to present analytical papers, and to act as discussants. Often they are asked to comment on manuscripts of books and monographs. They are respected as leaders in their fields.



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Attachments:  
As stated

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Approved For Release 2004/05/13 : CIA-RDP91M00696R000700120007-0

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Approved For Release 2004/05/13 : CIA-RDP91M00696R000700120007-0